

Control Number: 50664



Item Number: 207

Addendum StartPage: 0

PROJECT NO. 50664

§ § §



ISSUES RELATED TO THE STATE OF DISASTER FOR THE CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

FOURTH ORDER DIRECTING CERTAIN ACTIONS AND GRANTING EXCEPTIONS TO CERTAIN RULES

On March 13, 2020, in response to the growing threat of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19), Governor Greg Abbott issued a Declaration of State of Disaster for all counties in Texas. In each subsequent month, and most recently on July 10, 2020, Governor Abbott has renewed the disaster declaration for all Texas counties.

On March 26, 2020, April 17, 2020, and May 14, 2020 in accordance with 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) §§ 25.480(j)(1)(B) and 25.498(i)(1)(B), the Commission directed all retail electric providers to offer a deferred payment plan to customers, upon request. Through this Order, the Commission renews this directive to all retail electric providers.

Furthermore, on March 26, 2020, April 17, 2020, and May 14, 2020, under the authority found in 16 TAC § 22.5(a), the Commission found that there existed a public emergency and imperative public necessity that constitutes good cause for granting exceptions to certain rules. Good cause continues to exist for the below referenced rules, and the Commission through this Order renews the exception to the following rules until August 31, 2020 to the extent that these rules apply to residential customers:

• Electric Rules

o 16 TAC § 25.29(b)(1), which allows an electric utility to disconnect electric service of a residential customer for nonpayment.

These exceptions will best serve the public interest and will not prejudice the rights of any party.

Accordingly, the following is ordered:

- 1. All retail electric providers must continue to offer a deferred payment plan to customers, upon request, until further order of the Commission.
- 2. Until August 31, 2020, exceptions are granted to the following electric rule to the extent that the rule applies to residential customers: 16 TAC § 25.29(b)(1), which allows an electric utility to disconnect electric service of a residential customer for nonpayment.

Signed at Austin, Texas the 16th day of July 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS

DEANN T. WALKER, CHAIRMAN

ARTHUR C. D'ANDREA, COMMISSIONER

SHELLY BOTKIN, COMMISSIONER